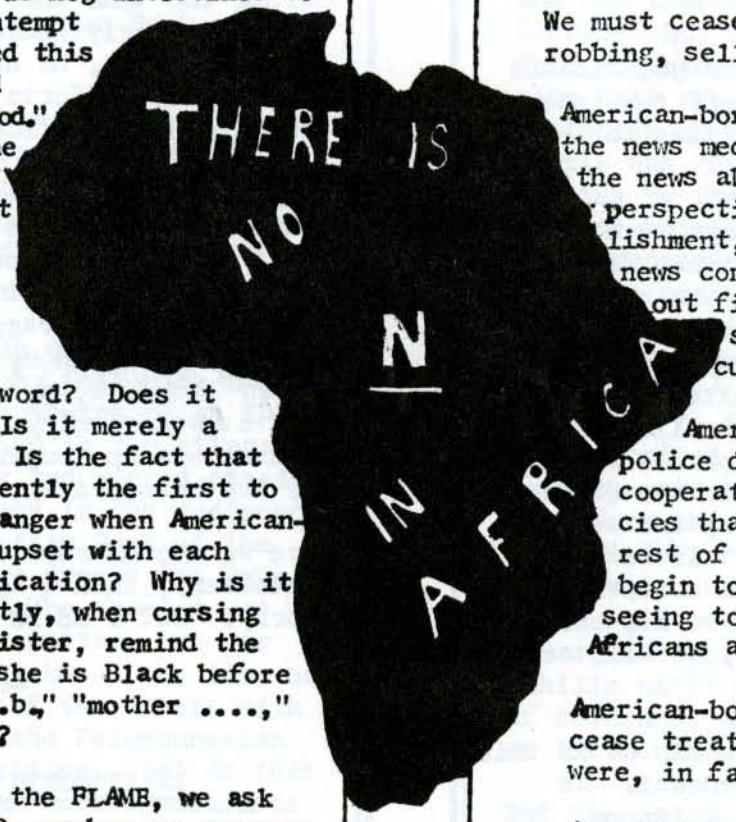
HARAMBEE FLAME

VOL. II No. 1 May-June 1981

There is no N in Africa! "Nigger" is a word born of white racism. It is expressive of the contempt that we are held in. "Nigger" has its parallel in hog intestines(chitterlings). The slave-master gave us hog intestines to eat out of his contempt for us. We claimed this refuse as ours and called it "soul food." Out of contempt, he called us "nigger" and out of contempt for ourselves and each other, we call each other "nigger."



Is "nigger" just a word? Does it have no meaning? Is it merely a figure of speech? Is the fact that this word is frequently the first to be blurted out in anger when American-born Africans are upset with each other without implication? Why is it that we so frequently, when cursing out a Brother of Sister, remind the person that he or she is Black before we attach the "s.o.b.," "mother ....," or other expletive?

With this issue of the FLAME, we ask you, be you H.A.C.O. member or non-member, be you behind physical bars or not, be you Brother or Sister, to help us bring about a renewal of self- and mutual-respect. We ask you to take a good, hard look at the continent of Africa as pictured on this page. For it is on this continent wherein lies our heritage. It is here where lies the cradle of civilization. As African people, we should be proud and have dignity. As an oppressed African people, we can ill-afford to hold ourselves and each other in contempt, to downgrade each other on the basis of our color, our nationality. This insanity must stop because it is killing us. It is killing us psychologically. It is killing us physically.

All forms of this racial self-hatred must cease:

We must cease assaulting, killing, robbing, selling drugs to each other.

American-born Africans who work in the news media must cease reporting the news about our people from the perspective of the white establishment, must cease reporting news concerning our people without first investigating to see that that news is accurate.

American-born Africans in police departments must cease cooperating in department policies that are not in the interest of our communities and must begin to exercise courage in seeing to it that American-born Africans are not brutalized.

American-born African men must cease treating our women as if they were, in fact, "bitches" and "hos."

American-born African women must begin to use their appeal to motivate Brothers to move in positive/constructive directions and must avoid taking on the values of middle-class white women so that Brothers are presented with a clear choice.

American-born African musicians must begin to address their craft to the needs of our people and bring relevance and creativity into their music. There are models to emulate: Gil Scott-Heron, Abby Lincoln, Max Roach, et al.

American-born African people who have business-management or other business-related skills must begin to move in a direction aimed at community progress rather than self-centered concern for personal upward mobility.

American-born Africans in the "educational" field must cease cooperating in the teaching of historical, sociological, economic, and other kinds of lies to our children.

American-born African politicians must cease trading off the interests of our communities for personal gain.

There are the above things to be done and much more. The Harambee Afro-Cultural Organization asks the cooperation of its members and non-members, of prisoners and non-prisoners, of Brothers and Sisters, of organizations that exist for the benefit(or allegedly for the benefit) of our people to help us "get it right." There is a madness spreading in this country and we are getting swept up in it. If we are to be niggers, then we will accept madness. If we are not to be niggers, we will reject the madness, we will cease to be jiving.

H.A.C.O. invites you to join us in this effort to bring about renewal. We welcome your advice and guidance. We welcome your cooperation.

-the editor

A SISTER EXPRESSES HERSELF

Instill the fear in our children, especially our young Black men. We are seeing our children be killed in so many ways and what can we do?

I think of the Zebra killing. Police came through the Black community, kicking down our doors. Let 26 white children be mutilated and killed. How speedily the guilty would be brought to justice.

What will it take for us to come together, to see the plan that has been designed for us?

-Sheba

A BROTHER EXPRESSES HIMSELF

Since the time when the African was so degradingly introduced upon these foreign soils, he has suffered immensely in his efforts to transcend the shackles of inustice.

Always consistent in his efforts to mesh the African in a web of subjugation, the white man created "nigger" as a term to identify that so-called "lowly savage," the African. "Nigger" rang in my grandfather's ears, in my father's, and one day I woke up and it was ringing in my ear; but the source was no longer the white man but my Brother African.

Are we who HE says we are? If it is necessary, then I apologize. I am sorry. BUT I BE NO NIGGER, PLEASE!

-Craig Sudduth

IS IT WORTH IT TO YOU?

Unless we find some person(s) or organization to underwrite the FLAME, we will have to begin with the next issue charging a subscription fee for our non-prisoner readers. Some time ago, we sent out letters to organizations and churches, inquiring as to whether they would be willing reproduce issues of the FLAME and send copies to people on their respective mailing lists. We received no responses. The subscription rate for the FLAME will be $6.00 per year(12 issues). If you wish to receive the FLAME, send your check to Harambee Afro-Cultural Organization; P.O. Box 2500; Lincoln, Neb.; 68502.

"GREEK PHILOSOPHY": A HOAX ?

If STOLEN LEGACY by George G.M. James (Reprinted by Julian Richardson Associates, 1976) is to be believed-and the evidence is convincing-it does appear we have been duped. In other words, "The white folks has done it again."

It is the contention of STOLEN LEGACY that what has been presented to the world as "Greek Philosophy" is truly a stolen and adulterated form of that knowledge and insights contained within the Egyptian Mystery System and the Egyptian Book of the Dead.

Below are listed what might be termed "appetite-whetters," excerpts from STOLEN LEGACY which should serve to stimulate your curiosity regarding the issues raised.

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Plato's authorship of THE REPUBLIC is disputed for the following reasons: (a) The attributes of an IDEAL STATE are expressed in the allegory of the charioteer and winged steeds which is dramatized in the Judgement Drama of the Egyptian Book of the Dead and therefore proves its Egyptian origin. (b) The chariot was neither a culture pattern nor war machine of the Greeks at the time of Plato. The wars of the Greeks with the Persians and the Peloponnesian wars were all maritime. (c) At this time the Egyptians were specialists in the manufacture of chariots and horse breeding.

This doctrine(of the Demiurge in Creation) which is ascribed to the authorship of Plato, did not by any means originate from Plato. History tells us th at the original source of the doctrine of a Demiurge(God) in creation was Egypt, and it dates back to the creation story of Egypt 4,000 BC which is to be found in the account given by the Memphite Theology: an inscription on a stone, now kept in the British Museum. It contains the theological and cosmological views of the Egyptians which date back to the very beginning of Egyptian history, when the first dynasties had made their new capital at Memphis, the city of the God Ptah, i.e., about 4,000 BC, or even earlier.

The doctrine of Nous(mind or an Intelligent Cause, in order to account for God and Creation) is attributed to Socrates. With reference to this doctrine, we find that it is also credited to Anaxagoras, who is said to have lived between 500 and 430 BC and who therefore antedated Socrates (469-399 BC) in expounding it.... This doctrine of the Nous is a doctrine that originated from the Ancient Mysteries of Egypt, where the God Osiris was represented in all Egyptian temples by the symbol of an Open Eye. This symbol indicated not only sight that transcends time and space, but also the omniscience of God, as the Great Mind which created and which directs the Universe.

According to the doctrine that has been ascribed to Aristotle: "because matter, motion and time are eternal, therefore the world is also eternal," he plainly accepts and repeats a doctrine which has also been ascribed to Democritus(400 BC), whose dictum we are all quite familiar with: ex nihillo nihil fit(nothing comes out of nothing), and consequently matter or the world must always have existed.

But the antiquity of the doctrine of the eternal nature of matter, takes us back to the creation story of the Memphite Theology of the Egyptians, in which Chaos is represented by the Primeval Ocean Nun, out of which there arose the Primeval Hill Ta-tjenen.

.....

Likewise, never let us forget when we are reviewing this bit of history that the Greeks called the Egyptians Hoi Aiguptoi which meant Black people.

DISILLUSIONED

I heard you were intelligent
And maybe even wise
Then one day some time we spent
Opened up my eyes.

I tell you "I'm concerned about
the state of Black Affairs."
And you say "Yes it's bad no doubt
And I'm a man who cares."

I say "It's too much to face
and think about alone."
And you say "Let's go to my place,
I have thoughts of my own."

We get there, I say
"We must plot,
our people are oppressed."
But you say "Hm, it's getting hot,
might help if we undressed."

I say "I must use my mind
to help us get ahead."
But you say "What a nice behind.
Let's stretch out on the bed."

I say "I just read two books
by Malcolm and Fanon."
But you say "I sure like your looks.
Oh baby, let's get it on!"

I say "Just where is your head?
Your thinking's mighty low.
You haven't heard a word I've said,
so I'll get up and go."

If this is your new policy
to fight the revolution,
the race is doomed,
for I can see
You've got the wrong solution.

-Doreen Charles

UNTITLED

Love me without fear
Trust me without questioning
Need me without demanding
Respect me without change
Want me without restrictions
Desire me without inhibitions
For a love so free.....
Will never fly away.

Jimmy Sowell

The HARAMBEE FLAME is a publication of the Harambee Afro-Cultural Organization, based at the Nebraska State Pen. We meet on Mondays. For information regarding attending our meetings, etc., either write Chairman Chico Wilson, Educational Chairman David L. Rice, or call our sponsor, Scott Marshall, at 471-3161.

Shortly the Harambee Afro-Cultural Organization will be selling what we will call "Thought Buttons." The selling of these buttons will be both for the purpose of fund-raising and consciousness-raising